



Georgia On My Mind

Monthly Newsletter of the ARRL Georgia Section



March, 2022

News You Should Know

Forestry Service's Proposed Facility Fees

On February 24, the Forest Service filed a Notice with the Federal Register that the comment filing window will be re-opened on March 1 and additional comments will be accepted through March 31. Any radio amateurs missing the first comment period or wishing to add to their earlier comments are encouraged to do so during this additional period.

<https://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-seeks-exemption-from-proposed-us-forest-service-communication-facility-fees-comment-period-to-b>

If you use a repeater or your club has a repeater on National Forest Service land, this affects YOU. Please consider filing a comment!

The ARRL has filed a comment asking for a waiver for Amateur Radio installations.

73,
ARRL Southeastern Division
Director: Mickey V Baker, N4MB
n4mb@arrl.org

Ukrainian News

The BBC's shortwave radio broadcast can be found on 15735 kHz from 4pm to 6pm and on 5875 kHz from 10pm to midnight, Ukraine time. The news will be read in English, which the BBC says will be available in Kyiv as well as "parts of Russia".

ARES Monthly Reporting

ARES County Monthly Reports will only be accepted from County EC's. ECs are responsible for collecting time from the members of the local group. Individual member reports will no longer be accepted by the Georgia ARES Monthly Reporting System.

DEC's will submit a Monthly Report based on their "District" duties. DEC's that are also County EC's will have to submit a separate report or can combine the data on the County Monthly Report. Please make a note in the comments section, if it is a combined report.

The same will apply to ADEC's who have the responsibility of submitting a Monthly District report and are also County EC's.

Technical Specialists, SEC, ASEC, and Net Managers, must submit a Monthly Report, specific to their Statewide ARES duties only. If they also hold a position as a County EC, that Monthly report must be separate and only contain specific County data.

ASMs do not have to submit a Monthly Report unless they have DEC, ADEC, EC, or member duties entered under those titles.

These changes go into effect 01 March 2022 for the February 2022 report.

Bob Garza, K4TLG
ASEC REPORTING
478-397-6766

Upcoming Events

WSB Radio - Special Event - W5B

Radio station WSB in Atlanta is celebrating its 100th anniversary March 15, 2022. It is the oldest broadcast station in the Southeast, and one of the oldest stations in the United States. Atlanta area Hams, with the support of The Atlanta Radio Club W4DOC, will be commemorating this anniversary by conducting a special operating event starting **0500 UTC 3/12/2022 and ending 0500 UTC 3/21/2022.**

The main event will be Tuesday 3/15/2022 when we will be operating from both WSB offices in Atlanta and the historic transmitter site in Tucker, GA.

When it went on the air for the first time at a power of 100 watts. The station was originally owned by The Atlanta Journal and broadcast from a makeshift studio on the fifth floor of The Journal building on Forsyth Street in downtown Atlanta. In 1925 the station moved to more spacious quarters on the top floor of the Biltmore Hotel, where it remained for the next thirty years. In 1955, WSB-TV and WSB Radio moved into the building that housed the operations for the next 43 years. The new structure became known as "White Columns" and was a magnificent blend of history and emerging technology.

Hailed as the "Voice of the South," WSB Radio was an innovative pioneer in radio. With its many breakthrough practices, from being the first radio station to use a slogan to broadcasting a Spanish translation of "Voice of America" programs to Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis, WSB always remained cutting edge and more importantly, relevant. Its presence continues to be felt in the city of Atlanta, throughout the nation, and worldwide. The station now resides in Midtown at 1601 Peachtree St.

Amateurs using the callsign W5B will make two-way contact with other amateurs across selected bands on SSB, AM, CW, and digital modes. A special QSL card will be sent to anyone who contacts one or more of the special event stations and sends a card accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. The card will feature historical photos of WSB over the years as well as a special 100th Anniversary WSB logo. A historical sheet will also be available for download.

Event information will be updated and available as plans are completed by going to www.atlantaradioclub.org/wsb-100-event. For more info, please contact wsb100@atlantaradioclub.org

Athens Radio Club - Special Event - N1D

Join us in our celebration of Ham Radio support of the Number One Dawgs.

The Athens Radio Club will operate a Ham Radio Special Event Station from Gate 1 on Sanford Drive across from the Tate Center from noon, **April 30 through noon, May 1.**

We will be celebrating 43 years of the club operating as First Aid Dawgs providing communications "between the hedges".



The station will use the Special Event callsign **N1D - Number One Dawgs** - to commemorate UGA Bulldogs winning the 2021 NCAA national football championship. Just put N1D in the search box at <http://arri.org/special-event-stations>. N1D is also featured on the Athens Radio Club website: <https://athensradioclub.squarespace.com/>

Students, UGA employees, and the general public are invited to attend and make a radio contact with the assistance of a licensed amateur radio operator.

An information booth will be setup and all visitors can sign in to the event.

More Upcoming Events

Georgia QSO Party

The Georgia QSO Party is an amateur radio operating event sponsored by the **South East Contest Club** and **Southeastern DX Club**, contest director **Jeff Clarke, KU8E**, that's held annually on the 2nd full weekend of April. The 2022 Georgia QSO Party will be held on

April 9-10 with **two operating periods**:

1800Z Saturday (2:00 pm EDT Saturday) until 0359Z Sunday (11:59 pm EDT Saturday) and 1400Z Sunday (10:00 am EDT Sunday) to 2359Z Sunday (7:59 pm EDT Sunday).

The object of this competition is for amateur radio operators **outside** of Georgia to make on the air contacts with stations located inside the state of Georgia. Stations located **inside** Georgia can work everyone. You don't need to be a hardcore contester to participate in this event. Many clubs in Georgia use the GQP as a club activity, much like Field Day. If you are located in a rare Georgia county you will be very popular. We also have a very nice awards program that's managed by Chaz, W4GKF.

The GQP has always had good support from the amateur radio community in Georgia. With 159 counties, Georgia has the 2nd most number of counties in the United States. You can count on most of them being active during the GQP weekend. The GQP has a rich history of having many rover stations on the air that activate some of the rarer Georgia counties. We've had visitors from Alabama, California, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas and other places who have driven all the way to Georgia to participate as a rover station. The pile-ups they generate rival that of a DXpedition, as out of state participants try to contact as many Georgia counties as they can. Visit <https://gaqsoparty.com/> for Georgia QSO Party information and rules.

Colquitt County POTA 3/19/22

The Colquitt County Ham Radio Society is doing a POTA activation at Reed Bingham State Park (K-2195) using our club call AA4P (along with our personal calls, too) on March 19, 2022. Many of our members will use their personal equipment to activate the park. We will have SSB and CW and possibly a few ops who haven't operated much HF! Check out AA4P on QRZ.com for updates.

To celebrate the club's "**45th Anniversary**", the **North Fulton Amateur Radio League** will be operating 10 special event call sign stations on the



air during the event. The stations will be:

N4N - N4F - N4A - N4R - N4L

K4N - K4F - K4A - K4R - K4L

A special "Spell NFARL" Certificate will be awarded to those that work 5 of these 10 stations in any combination to spell NFARL (Ns or Ks) SSB and/or CW, any band combo.

Work all ten 1x1 suffixes to earn the prestigious and highly coveted "Clean Sweep".

Send contact info for certificate to n4tol@arrrl.net. QSL card for 1x1 contacts via NF4GA with SASE.

For more information about this year's GQP, please join our Zoom meeting on Monday, March 21st, at 7:30pm. Learn more about the different entry categories, and share tips and strategies with newcomers and veterans alike. Of course, Jeff KU8E will be on hand to remind us of the rules, and to answer questions. Choose meeting ID: 985 2076 8438, Passcode 760216. For assistance, email Andy amgoss05@yahoo.com.

Virtual Skywarn Spotter Training

Basic Spotter Training - Class Schedule:

****all classes are virtual****

- Wednesday, March 16th / 6:00-8:00 PM
- Tuesday, March 22nd / 6:00-8:00 PM

www.weather.gov/ffc/skywarnsched

Even More - Upcoming Events

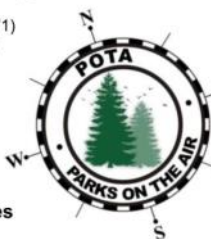
Lanierland Amateur Radio Club POTA (Gainesville) 5/7/22

May 7 will be the first annual North GA POTA meetup. We will have food, fellowship, and even a special 1x1 call sign. We will have an Icom 7300 set up to play POTA via CW, SSB, and FT 8. We are encouraging all to come and show off their rigs and have a good time in the park.

North Georgia P.O.T.A. Activation

Don Carter State Park (K-2171)
5000 N. Browning Bridge Rd
Gainesville, GA 30506
Latitude: 34.3907
Longitude: -83.7491
Pavilion 4

Free Food
50/50 Raffle
Go Box contest with prizes



Special Event
W 4 P
WILD 4 POTA

Sponsored By



Parks On The Air Meetup
Saturday May 7, 2022 9 AM - 2 PM EST

We will be at pavilion 4 in Don Carter State Park, 5000 N. Browning Bridge Rd. Gainesville. There is a bathroom 100 ft from the picnic shelter. We will have free food, prizes, and a 50/50 raffle. Come on out and get an eyeball on each other. This event is sponsored by The Lanierland ARC. We are inviting all hamfam and potafam to the event! You can contact Billy Fallin at activities@lanierlandarc.org for questions or concerns.

Etowah Valley Amateur Radio Club Cartersville

EVARC recently acquired a new space at the American legion Post #42. A big thank you goes out to the post and all members for their gracious hospitality. The space required a little clean up and we obtained a secure room to set up a new club station.

The members met prior to our first meeting of the year to make preparations for the new station. Outside ground rods installed, entry ways for coax, inside grounding installed, and antennae hung.

Now, what do we do with the space and the radio (s) we have and are acquiring? We are working on affiliating with the American Legion Radio Club since we are using their space. A whole host of activities have been suggested but I think we will need to be selective as to not overload our ability to pull them off. As with all volunteer organizations, our members are busy with other activities also.

During the March meeting we were entertained with a presentation from the ARRL video library on "The Ungly Balun" by W6NBC version, John Portune presenting.

Steve Walls K4ELI provided a door prize that was won by Bill Hood NA4JW. The prize was a Drake TR 22 2 meter crystal radio. Congratulations Bill.



Upcoming Hamfests

03/19/2022 - Sevier County Hamfest <https://seviercountyrars.com/hamfest-2022>

03/26/2022 - DeKalb County (AL) ARC Tailgate <https://www.facebook.com/W4DGH/posts/4693295697436072>

04/16/2022 - AJARC Hamfest Greeneville, TN <https://greenevillehamfest.com/>

04/23/22 - Calhoun/CCARS Hamfest <https://www.k4woc.com/hamfest-2022/>

04/30/2022 Savannah Area Swap Meet http://coastalamateurradiosociety.net/wpW4LHSblog/?page_id=1049

06/04/22 - Atlanta Hamfest <https://www.atlantaradioclub.org/atlanta-hamfestival.html>

06/18/2022 - Black Warrior Hamfest Northport, AL <https://www.facebook.com/bwhamfest>

06/18/2022 - Knoxville Hamfest and Electronics Convention, ARRL Tennessee State Convention <https://www.w4bbb.org/knoxville-hamfest>

07/30/2022 - Greater Nashville & Middle Tennessee HamQuest <https://midtnhamquest.com/>

08/20/2022-08/21/2022 - Huntsville Hamfest <https://hamfest.org/>

10/14/2022-10/15/2022 - Chattanooga Hamfest <https://www.w4am.net/hamfest-chattanooga-2022/>

11/05/2022-11/06/2022 - Stone Mountain Hamfest
List courtesy of Ricky, NG4DX

SORBA Snake Time Trial

On February 12 an off-road bike race was held in Whitfield County over the Pinhoti Trail. Over 300 bikers and 14 ARES members were involved. The Incident Commander, Hank Blackwood, K4HYJ set this up to be a “simplex through a relay station” event, requiring specific voice protocols for radio communication, as a training exercise.



Dalton Hamfest

February 26, 2022

All but three of the tables were sold out and despite the frigid weather, the boneyard was full!! It was great to see so many hams, up close and in person, meeting, greeting and buying radios.



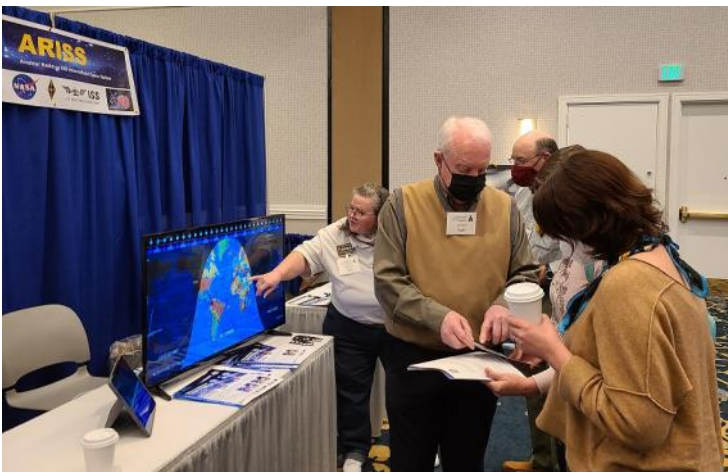
Our group had a good time at the Dalton Hamfest, but Jeff Reynolds, who is now KO4NXQ/AE had the best time. He passed his Extra test AND WON THE GRAND PRIZE. An Icom IC-7300.



Amateur Radio's next Generation

North Fulton Amateur Radio League

NFARL President John N4IHV and NFARL Secretary Martha W4MSA, along with Daryl K4RGK and Nathan K4NHV, joined over 600 science teachers at the **Georgia Science Teachers Association's Annual Conference** in Peachtree City on February 10th and 11th, 2021. We were representing the GA Section - AARL at this conference. Our two main goals included: (1) encourage teachers to apply to attend the ARRL's Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology and (2) apply to host an ARISS radio contact at their school.



The arrangement between Wes W3WL and Life-long Learning director Steve Goodgame K5ATA was if we managed to get 'a certain number' of teachers to apply we could host the conference in the Atlanta area for the first time ever. This would give a wonderful group of teachers the knowledge and skills to educate their students about wireless technology. This could increase the students' curiosity and steer them toward careers not previously considered. To increase the likelihood of this, John and Martha wrote "Write 'ATL' next to your name on the application" on the flyers about the Institute. We encouraged everyone who came by our booth to attend this excellent program. We also visited other booth presenters in hopes that they would encourage fellow teachers they encounter or work with to apply for the Institute.

We spoke to teachers about the wonders of the ARISS program. ARISS stands for 'Amateur Radio on the International Space Station.' The window to apply to host an ARISS contact opens February 21st, 2021, so we wanted to give them information about how to apply and reasons why to do so. Our

chats about the ARISS program usually began by showing the moving icon of the ISS on the Geochron we had in our booth. Everyone was mesmerized by the Geochron's display. Two young gals, who accompanied their mother through the Exhibit Area, loved to watch the ISS icon move while John and Martha talked with their mother.

To make an ARISS contact with the ISS, you must use a special antenna that can track the ISS's movement. Daryl and Nathan set up a satellite contact station outside in the parking lot to show teachers how this is done. If a satellite were passing over while they were there, the teachers were encouraged to talk on the radio with the station Nathan and Daryl had set up. The two young gals (along with their mother) mentioned before were among those who visited the satellite station. Again, those young gals were fascinated by what we were offering.

Rachel Jones KO4HLC brought her unbridled enthusiasm for everything STEM to our booth on Friday and joined us in our missions. Rachel is the research scientist from the Augusta area who oversaw the ARISS contact and pre-contact 'Ham 101' course at Savannah River Academy near Augusta. She brought excitement and enthusiasm to our booth.

On Thursday, Martha presented a break-out session on the ARISS program for schools. As part of her presentation, she encouraged the teachers to go out to see Daryl and Nathan run their satellite station. She also talked with the attendees about the Teachers Institute. The session concluded with great questions asked by the teachers.

On Friday, Rachel presented a break-out session on launching and tracking high altitude balloons, like she had the students do at Savannah River Academy. She also encouraged attendees to visit



Amateur Radio's next Generation - part 2

Daryl and Nathan outside and to apply for the Teachers Institute and the ARISS program.

John and Martha consider hosting a booth at this event to have been a successful experiment and adventure. It appeared that the teachers we spoke with at our booth "couldn't wait" to apply to the Teachers Institute and/ or apply to host an ARISS contact. Our goal was to get at least ten teachers to apply to the Institute, but we are hopeful that our efforts at this convention will bring more than that, as well as bringing lots of participants to the AR-RIS Program and The Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology.



Daryl and Nathan setting up their satellite station

We left the Conference tired but happy at the work we had done. We hope we represented ham radio well to the teachers and that this, along with the Teachers Institute and the ARISS program, will encourage more schools to establish a ham radio program at their schools.

<https://www.georgiascienceteacher.org/event-4450957>

Amateur Radio Club of Columbia County

Congratulations to Thomas Jackson (KO4TX) for earning his Extra Class License during the Exam Session this morning and for winning the Baofeng UV-5R portable radio preprogrammed with all of the CSRA Repeater Frequencies provided as part of the amateur radio incentive program conducted by the Amateur Radio Club of Columbia County.

There were a total of 5 Technician Class licenses and 2 Extra Class Licenses earned at the Exam Session today.

What a wonderful group of committed individuals who help increase awareness and add new amateur radio operators to the Amateur Radio hobby!

School Club Roundup Rambler Radio Club (W4LMS) LaFayette Middle School Walker County – 2/15/22

The School Club Roundup comes twice a year, in February and October. It is a 5-day event using any mode and each club can operate no more than 6 hours each day. This event is sponsored by ARRL.

Today's time of operation: 1hr, 27 min

Current point total: 725

Today' total contacts made: 29

Today's States contacted: 14

Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia

School's contacted: 2 (Gainesville GA City Schools and a private school in Ohio)

Foreign contacts: Cayman Islands (by Lexie on her 2nd contact ever!)

Piglet (Young Ham) Count:

Emma 26 contacts

Lexie: 3 contacts (these are Lexie's first ever!)

Club Sponsor: Jody Carter (W4LMS)

<http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>



Awards

Amateur Radio Service to Scouting Award



Jay Langley, N4NRL of Winston, GA was presented with the ARRL Service to Scouting Award Saturday February 19, 2022, by Gwen Touchstone, Troop 39 Committee and Eagle Scout Coordinator, Carroll County.

To be nominated for this award, a candidate must have met five of the following ten requirements:

1. Organize a class & teach Radio Merit Badge to a District or Council "Merit Badge Day" or "STEM Badge Day" event.
2. Participate in teaching Radio Merit Badge at a Troop, District or Council event on at least three different occasions.
3. Participate in teaching Radio Merit Badge conducted at a hamfest or organized by an amateur radio club on at least three different occasions.
4. Organize and lead a District or Council Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) event.
5. Participate in Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) activities for at least three JOTAs.
6. Provide Amateur Radio communications support for a summer camp, winter camp, Camporee, Klondike Derby, or other official District or Council camp.



7. Participate in three District or Council Camporees by setting up an Amateur Radio Demonstration Station.
8. Service as Chairman or member of a Council Radio Scouting Committee and guide significant improvements in council amateur radio operating facilities and expanded Scouting amateur radio activities.
9. Arrange for the donation of equipment to establish amateur radio stations at a Council camp.
10. Serve as a K2BSA Staff Member at a National Jamboree or on the Amateur Radio Staff at a World Jamboree.